

AMENDED CLAIMS

received by the International Bureau on 17 April 2005
original claims 1-6, replaced by claims 1-6

1. A method of effecting a connection from user's
phone terminal to a service in a telecommunications network
5 with the use of an SS7 signalling channel and a voice
channel, characterized in that the service can be accessed
identically and simultaneously with the use of one of two
complementary interfaces: a voice interface, using DTMF,
and a text interface, using USSD commands, where the
10 service is called by a connection, initialized by the user,
to the service access number in the telecommunications
network, which in the case of the voice interface is
treated as a phone number, while in the case of the text
interface it is treated as a USSD command, consisting of
15 the same digit sequences and differing only in the
characters „*” and „#”, included therein, whereas these
differences are interpreted by the phone set to select
proper telecommunications channel: the SS7 signalling for
the text interface or the voice channel through which the
20 user's connection with the service will be effected, and
the decision on how this connection is to be handled is
made by the service, basing on information related to the
incoming connection, received either directly from the
telecommunications network or indirectly from the
25 telecommunications operator.

2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the access number contains additional parameters separated with a character "*" or "#", and these parameters are given by the user either during the initiation of a telecommunication connection, or alternatively already during this connection, and the parameters given during the connection are preferably alphanumerical data.

3. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the text interface is an SMS message, and the numbering used to access the service is identical to the numbering used for the voice interface.

4. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the term connection to a service means also a connection to another user.

5. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the term connection means also a set or a sequence of voice or text messages exchanged between the user and the service without the need to establish a physical connection.

6. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the connection with the service is switched from one interface to another during the connection.